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South Carolina House of Representatives



# Legislative Update

Robert J. Sheheen, Speaker of the House

Vol. 8

April 2, 1991

No. 12

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## Legislative Update, April 2, 1991

### House Week in Review

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The House of Representatives refused to give the \$275 million State Bond Bill second reading last week, but was debating a motion to reconsider the failed vote when the House adjourned for the legislative week.

By a vote of 47-55, the House refused to give H.3651 the required second reading approval last Thursday. The vote came after considerable discussion by the House about what projects, if any, should be funded by the Bond Bill.

On Thursday, objections initially placed the Bond Bill on the House contested calendar. When the legislation was finally reached on the calendar, the House rejected several amendments to pare down the cost of the bill. But after lengthy discussion on both sides of the issue, the bill failed to receive enough votes to gain second reading. H.3651 is not dead, however. The House was debating whether to reconsider the vote rejecting H.3651 when it adjourned for the week.

On Thursday, the House did agree to give third reading to S.623, a bill prohibiting students from wearing paging devices, which proponents say will help stop drug trafficking in schools. Enrolled for ratification was S.653, the English fluency in higher education legislation. The House also agreed to adjourn debate on H.3096, the Solid Waste Management bill, until Wednesday, April 3.

The House met at a later time than usual Wednesday to allow the House Judiciary Committee additional time to consider H.3743, the House ethics bill. The House Judiciary Committee bill was introduced on Thursday and was placed on the House calendar without reference. A summary of H.3743, the Ethics and Accountability in Government bill, appears in this issue of the Legislative Update.

At noon Wednesday, the General Assembly met in joint session to hear the annual address by the national commander of the American Legion. This year's address was given by Robert S. Turner of Sanoya, Ga.

**Legislative Update, April 2, 1991**

**Summary: Proposed House Ethics Legislation**

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The following is a section by section summary of H.3743, the House Judiciary Committee bill on ethics and accountability in government. This committee bill was introduced last week and placed on the House calendar without reference. Thanks to Mary Margaret Mosrie, assistant staff counsel for the House Judiciary Committee, for preparing this summary.

**Ethics and Accountability in Government Act Summary  
(H.3743)**

**SECTION 1.**

**§ 8-14-10**

Act to be known as the "Ethics and Accountability in Government Act."

**§ 8-14-20**

Definitions

**§ 8-14-30**

Prohibits pledges until the end of screening.

**§ 8-14-210**

Ethics Commission to be made up of 9 members, appointed by the Gov, with advice and consent of G.A. (1 from each congressional district and 3 at-large); 5 year terms; cannot serve more than one term. Commission action requires five affirmative votes.

Bars members or employees of Commission from participating in campaigns.

**§ 8-14-220**

Ethics Commission may render written advisory opinions upon own initiative or upon written request. Confidentiality of names must be maintained upon request.

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### **§ 8-13-230**

Ethics Commission may conduct investigations, inquiries and hearings and may administer oaths and issue subpoenas, subject to judicial enforcement. All matters to remain confidential until final disposition.

### **Section 8-14-240**

Commission to prescribe and provide forms required by this chapter. Documents filed with the commission must be retained for at least 4 years, open to the public upon request.

### **Section 8-14-250**

Commission to accept and investigate complaints alleging violations of this chapter.

### **Section 8-14-260**

Upon probable cause to believe a violation has been committed, the Commission may initiate a complaint upon its own motion, if signed by a majority of its members.

### **Section 8-14-270**

Respondents to have the opportunity to be heard and exonerate their conduct.

The Commission may refer evidence of apparent violations to the Attorney General for prosecution.

### **Section 8-14-280**

After an investigation, if probable cause exists, hearing to be held before a 3 member panel of the Commission.

### **Section 8-14-290**

Panel shall conduct the hearing under the APA, except as otherwise specified.

### **Section 8-14-300**

Within 60 days after a hearing, Commission to provide a written decision as follows:

(1) for public officials or employees other than members of the General Assembly or judiciary, a recommendation of censure, suspension, or removal from office or position;

(2) for members of the G.A., a report without recommendation to the presiding officer of the body;

(3) for members of the judiciary, a report without recommendation, to the judicial standards commission;

(4) for state officials subject to impeachment, a recommendation to the presiding officers of the G. A. that the official be removed from office;

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(5) an order prescribing a civil penalty of not more than \$2,000 for each violation;

(6) an order requiring either the forfeiture of profits, etc. or voiding nonlegislative state action or both.

(B) Fines, disciplinary action, or determination not to take action is public record. Does not limit power of the legislature or a department to discipline its members or employees, nor does it preclude prosecution for violations of any laws of this State.

### **Section 8-14-310**

Respondent may appeal a panel decision within 10 days to the full Commission.

### **Section 8-14-320**

The Attorney General may initiate an action to recover a fees, gifts, etc. received as a result of a violation no later than 1 year after determination by the Commission of the violation.

### **Section 8-14-330**

4 year statute of limitations for filing complaints.

### **Section 8-14-340**

The wilful filing of a groundless complaint must be reported to the A.G. with the imposition of a misdemeanor fine of not more than \$1,000 upon conviction.

### **Section 8-14-350**

Upon assuming the duties of employment or office, each public official or employee shall receive a brochure prepared by the State Ethics Commission describing the general application of this chapter.

### **Section 8-14-360**

The commission, in the performance of its duties under this chapter, may utilize the resources of other state agencies.

### **Section 8-14-370**

No complaints to be accepted in the 60 day period preceding an election. Complaints received prior to that 60 day period that cannot be disposed of prior to 40 days before the election are postponed until after the election.

### **Section 8-14-380**

The commission shall make an annual report to the General Assembly and Governor.

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**Article 5  
Senate and House Ethics Committees**

**Section 8-14-510**

Creates House and Senate Ethics Committees, each composed of 6 members whose terms are coterminous with their legislative terms.

**Section 8-14-520**

Each committee to meet and recommend changes in ethics law.

**Section 8-14-530**

(A) Upon receipt of reports from the Ethics Commission, presiding officers of the legislature are to refer matter to the appropriate ethics committee, who shall meet in executive session to:

- (1) issue reprimands; or
- (2) recommend expulsion or otherwise punish the member under Sec. 12, Art. III, of the S.C. Constitution;
- (3) in cases of alleged criminal violations, refer the matter to the Attorney General;
- (4) accept report as information and take no action

(B) The committee must report its findings and order to the presiding officer of the chamber.

(C) An individual has 10 days to appeal the committee's action to the full body.

**Section 8-14-540**

(A) Upon receipt of an appeal by the full legislative body from the ethics committee, the presiding officer must call the body into open session, at a time in his discretion, to consider the matter and sustain the committee action or order other action consistent with Section 8-14-530 (A) 1-4.

(B) The results of that consideration, except for a private reprimand, are a matter of public record.

**Section 8-14-550**

An indicted public official must be suspended by the presiding officer of the House, Senate, Chief Justice or the Governor immediately without pay. Until the public official pleads guilty, is acquitted, is convicted or pleads nolo contendere, the member remains suspended from office. If the public official is convicted, the office must be declared vacant. If acquitted or dismissed, the public official is entitled to reinstatement of back pay.

**Section 8-14-560**

The Ethics Committees shall also act as an advisory body for each chamber on questions of disclosure and filing requirements.

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### **Article 7 Lobbyists and Lobbying**

#### **Section 8-14-710**

(A) A lobbyist must register with the State Ethics Commission within 15 days of becoming a lobbyist and then annually thereafter. Registration fees are \$200 for each individual, except for full time state employees lobbying on behalf of their agency for which there is no fee.

(B) Lists of registered lobbyists to be furnished to constitutional officers and the General Assembly with monthly updates.

#### **Section 8-14-720**

(A) Lobbyist registration forms to be in the form prescribed by the State Ethics Commission and to include:

- (1) name, address, phone #, employer, principal place of business, and position held by the lobbyist;
- (2) identification of lobbyist's principals;
- (3) identification of subject matter of lobbyist's interest;
- (4) identification of each individual lobbying on behalf of any corporate entity registering as a lobbyist;
- (5) identification of each individual lobbying on behalf of the reporting lobbyist;
- (6) certification of correctness of the report.

(B) Provides for a termination statement.

(C) Supplemental registration required for substantial changes in prior registration information.

(D) Lobbyists must maintain records for 4 years, itemizing all contributions and expenditures in connection with lobbying.

(E) Lobbyist principals must maintain records for 4 years, itemizing all contributions and expenditures in connection with lobbying.

(F) Ethics Commission may require persons to submit information pursuant to requirements of this chapter.

#### **Section 8-14-730**

(A) Lobbyists shall file a report for each lobbyist principal containing all contributions and expenditures made on the principal's behalf and itemized as prescribed by the Ethics Commission, including all contributions in an aggregate amount in excess of \$25/day and \$150/year to a public official or employee.

(B) Reports must be filed semi-annually with the Ethics Commission.

#### **Section 8-14-740**

Lobbyists for state agencies who spend a substantial amount of their time lobbying shall file semi-annually reports also, unless their only lobbying activity is appearing before legislative committees upon request.

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### **Section 8-14-750**

Provides for the powers of the Ethics Commission;

Among other things, the Ethics Commission has the power to take oaths, subpoena witnesses and documents, order testimony, request the Attorney General to initiate proceedings, prosecute and defend actions for enforcing this chapter, to promulgate regulations and to assess late fines provided for under this chapter.

### **§8-14-760**

Provides for the duties of the Ethics Commission;

Among other things, the Ethics Commission has the duty to:

- a) develop forms under this chapter;
- b) to issue i.d. cards to lobbyists;
- c) to prepare a manual for bookkeeping and reporting purposes;
- d) to develop a filing and coding system;
- e) to make notices of registration and reports filed under this chapter available to the public;
- f) to preserve records for four years;
- g) to ascertain whether a lobbyist is in compliance with this chapter;
- h) to receive complaints and make investigations with respect to this chapter;
- i) to report violations to the Attorney General.

### **§8-15-770**

Indicted lobbyists must be suspended by the Ethics Commission. Anyone intentionally or knowingly misfiling is subject to a fine of up to \$2500.00 and imprisonment up to one year. Persons are barred for 3 years from lobbying.

### **§8-14-780**

"No cup of Coffee Rule"-- No invitations to public officials from lobbyists unless entire body is invited. (Similar to the House Rules); loans are prohibited from lobbyists and principals to public officials.

### **§8-14-790**

Lobbyists may not serve as treasurer for a candidate nor as a member of a state board or commission elected by the General Assembly;

- a) lobbyists and principals are prohibited from paying honoraria to public officials;
- b) lobbyists may not be paid on a contingency basis;
- c) lobbyists may not deliver campaign contributions and may not enter the floor of the General Assembly unless invited;
- d) lobbyists and principals may not employ public officials or members of their firm on retainer.

### **§8-14-800**

No lobbyist may provide a gift to a public official and no public official may accept a gift from a lobbyist.



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### **Rules of Conduct**

#### **§8-14-1010**

**Prohibition against using public office for financial gain;**

**Public officials are prohibited from participating in procurement if they or a family member have a financial interest in the procurement; an interest in a blind trust is not considered to be a conflict of interest as long as it is disclosed.**

#### **§8-14-1020**

**Any gift to a public official valued at \$25.00 or more must be reported if there is reason to believe that the person giving the gift would not have given it but for the public official's position. This does not include mementos of an occasion or awards having value only to the recipient.**

#### **§8-14-1030**

**Prohibition against public officials receiving additional compensation for advice or assistance given in the course of their official duties.**

#### **§8-14-1040**

**Prohibition against using or disclosing confidential information gained in the course of employment for financial gain.**

#### **§8-14-1050**

**Prohibition against a person serving as a member of a governmental regulatory agency that regulates a business with which the person is associated with.**

#### **§8-14-1060**

**Prohibition against a public official from using his official position to influence governmental decisions affecting his or his family's financial interest.**

#### **§8-14-1070**

**Public officials or employees may not appear before the Public Service Commission, or Insurance Commission on rate or price fixing matters.**

#### **§8-14-1080**

**Prohibits nepotism in public employment.**

#### **§8-14-1090**

**Prohibits public officials or employees of governmental regulatory agencies from accepting anything of value from businesses regulated by the agency.**

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Former public officials or employees of a governmental regulatory agency may not serve as lobbyists or represent clients in matters in which they were involved while employed at the agency or department.

### **§8-14-1100**

No official or candidate may use public materials in an election campaign. Government may rent facilities for use in an election. Government personnel may participate in election campaigns on their own time.

### **§8-14-1110**

General Assembly members may not serve as members of a state board or commission. (Exempts State Budget Control Board and Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, LAC, Reorganization Commission, Legislative Council, and jt. legisl. committees).

### **§8-14-1120**

Public officials may not have an interest in a contract with the state or political subdivision if authorized to perform an official function relating to the contract. (This does not infringe on public employment contracts.)

## **Campaign Practices**

### **§8-14-1310**

No candidate may solicit or accept:

- 1) Cash contributions over \$100;
- 2) any contributions from lobbyists that lobby the body for which a candidate is seeking election;
- 3) contributions greater than \$2000 from an individual;
- 4) contributions greater than \$5000 from an assoc., corp., partnership, union or committee.

### **§8-14-1320**

Prohibition against a candidate for statewide elective office accepting more than \$100,000 from party committees or legislative caucus committees; a candidate for Senate, House of Rep., multi-county, county or municipal office may not receive more than \$25,000 from a party committee or legislative caucus committee.

### **§8-14-1330**

Contributions by spouses are considered separate contributions and are not aggregated.

Contributions by unemancipated children under 18 are attributed proportionately to each parent.

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### **§8-14-1340**

Prohibits the personal use of campaign funds except for the incidental personal use of campaign materials or equipment.

Expenditures of \$25 or more must be made by written instrument. Expenditures of less than \$25 must be accompanied by a receipt.

Expenditures may not be made in excess of the fair market value.

A candidate's petty cash fund may not exceed \$100. Expenditures from the petty cash fund may be made only for office supplies, food, transportation and other necessities not over \$25.

### **§8-14-1350**

Public officials in their official capacities may not receive honoraria other than reimbursement for actual, reasonable expenses.

### **§8-14-1360**

Public officials or employees may not accept or solicit contributions on State House grounds.

### **§8-14-1370**

Prohibits anonymous contributions except for ticketed events where the value of the ticket is \$25.00 or less; such contributions must be remitted to the State's general fund.

## **Campaign Disclosure**

### **§8-14-1510**

Certified campaign reports must contain, among other things, the full name and address of persons making contributions of over \$100.00 and the full name and address of each person to whom an expenditure is made from campaign funds;

Upon the receipt of \$500 or more, candidates must file an initial quarterly campaign report and must continue quarterly filing thereafter;

Contributions and expenditures over \$100 received or made by the candidate for the period ending 20 days prior to the election must be reported 15 days before the election;

Campaign reports are to be filed with the State Ethics Commission except for candidates for the General Assembly. Candidates for the G.A. must file reports with the Chairman of the House or Senate Ethics Committee who is then required to forward a copy to the State Ethics Commission.

### **§8-14-1520**

Non-candidate committees spending more than \$500. are required to file a statement of organization w/ the Ethics Commission.

### **§8-14-1530**

Provides what information the non-candidate committee must include on the statement of organization.

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### **§8-14-1540**

Candidates are required to maintain records for four years including: the name and address of each person making a contribution or to whom an expenditure is made with the date, amount, purpose, and beneficiary of the expenditure and proof of payment.

### **§8-14-1550**

Candidates may not have more than one checking account and one savings account, to be maintained in the name of the candidate unless federal or state law require additional accounts. Certificates of deposit are not considered to be separate accounts. Contributions must be deposited within 10 days of receipt.

### **§8-14-1560**

The contribution and expenditure reporting form must include: account balances; the total amount of contributions of \$100.00 or less; name and address of each person contributing more than \$100; loan information; date and amount of each expenditure.

### **§8-14-1570**

A candidate may file a statement of inactivity.

### **§8-14-1580**

Notice of obligation to report must be mailed by the State Ethics Commission within 30 days before the filing date of each reporting period.

### **§8-14-1590**

Specifies format of report.

### **§8-14-1600**

Provides the guidelines for final reporting.

### **§8-14-1610**

Campaign reports must be available for public inspection within 2 days after filing deadline.

### **§8-14-1620**

Provides how excess campaign funds may be used and prohibits personal use.

### **§8-14-1630**

Campaign literature must carry the name and address of the entity paying for it.

### **§8-14-1640**

A technical violations penalty may be assessed not to exceed \$200.

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### **Disclosure of Economic Interest**

#### **§8-14-1810**

No public official may take office until he has filed a statement of economic interest.

#### **§8-14-1820**

Provides a list of those individuals required to file a statement of economic interest.

#### **§8-14-1830**

The statement of economic interests must include: income received from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal of more than \$25/day and more than \$150 in the preceding year; gifts valued at \$25 or more if reason to believe gift was given due to the official's position; reimbursements for \$250 or more; government agencies, boards, commissions, or councils before which an official provided legal representation, with total compensation received for each.

#### **§8-14-1840**

Updating statements are required to be filed annually.

#### **§8-14-1850**

Upon filing for office, persons must file economic interest statements.

#### **§8-14-1860**

Members of the G.A. must file statements of economic interest with the Senate or House Ethics Committee, who must forward a copy to the State Ethics Commission; members of the judiciary are required to file with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; all other public officials must file with the State Ethics Commission.

#### **§8-14-1870**

A minor fine may be levied for technical violations.

### **Penalties**

#### **§8-14-2010**

Prohibition against vote buying, etc. (modified version of the Hobbs Act); persons guilty of violating this section are guilty of a felony subject to a maximum fine of \$10,000 and imprisonment for not more than ten years.

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**§8-14-2020**

Penalties for late filing of reports or statements under this chapter include an initial fine of \$100 for late filing plus 10.00 a day each day the report is late, not to exceed \$500.00.

**§8-14-2030**

Any person violating this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor with a maximum fine of \$5,000. and imprisonment of one year.

**SECTION 2.**

The felony offenses of this act are added to the list of crimes in Section 16-1-10.

**SECTION 3.**

Repeals Chapter 17, Title 2, and Chapter 13, Title 8 of current law.

**SECTION 4.**

Act effective January 1, 1992.

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### Bills Introduced

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The following bills were introduced in the House of Representatives last week. Not all the bills introduced in the House are featured here. The bill summaries are arranged according to the standing committee to which they were referred.

#### Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

Independent Inspection of the Pinewood Landfill (H.3740, Rep. McElveen). Under this joint resolution, the General Assembly would direct the state Department of Health and Environmental Control to contract with an independent firm to conduct an inspection and evaluation of the Pinewood hazardous waste landfill. After the evaluation, the independent firm would recommend repairs or other appropriate action to ensure that existing leaks in the landfill are sealed, that no new leaks will occur and that any environmental damage caused by the recent leaks in the landfill liner have been corrected.

Drivers of Motor Boats (H.3746, Rep. Cromer). This legislation would make it illegal for anyone under 16-years-old to drive a motor boat on any lake in South Carolina without an adult present. Under age 16 boat drivers would have to be accompanied by a person 21-years-old or older and could drive only during daylight hours. Daylight hours are defined in the bill as 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Any young person who violated this proposed statute would be prohibited from driving "any vessel on the waters of this state" until age 18.

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### Education and Public Works

Litter Containers in Cars (H.3750, Rep. Harvin). Under this legislation, each motor vehicle would be required to have a litter receptacle. Motorcycles, mopeds and the like would be exempt from this requirement. Those driving motor vehicles without a litter container could be charged with a misdemeanor and fined up to \$25.

### Judiciary

Judicial Screening Committee Additions (S.221, Sen. Bryan). Under this bill, four additional members would be added to the Judicial Screening Committee. These would be two members, who are not attorneys, appointed from the state at large by the president pro tempore of the Senate and the speaker of the House, respectively. In addition, two members of the South Carolina Bar Association would be selected for the committee, one appointed by the Senate president pro tempore and the other appointed by the House Speaker. These bar members would be selected from a list of not less than three Bar members submitted by the State Bar. These four non-legislator appointments would serve for two year terms.

Local Office Vacancy (H.3749, Rep. Scott). This legislation would allow the governor, upon the recommendation of a majority of the county legislative delegation, to appoint a person to fill an unexpired term when a vacancy occurs in a local office in the county which elects its local officers.

### Labor, Commerce and Industry

Credit Card Fraud (H.3721, Rep. Burriss). Under this legislation, it would be illegal for a person to fraudulently represent that he has authorization to use a credit card to a business or bank, which authorizes merchants to accept credit card payments.

S.C. Interior Designers Act (H.3723, Rep. Burriss). This legislation is aimed at the licensing and regulating of interior designers in South Carolina. The bill would prohibit the use of the term "interior designer" by non-licensed people, establish a board to draw up the licensing regulations and prescribe penalties for violation.



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Under this bill, a 7-member Interior Design Board would be established. All board members would be appointed by the governor, with four members being license interior designers. The other members would be a licensed architect, an interior design faculty member and a member of the public. The board would adopt an examination and grading standard for licensure, which could include the examination and grading procedures of the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ). Each applicant for licensing must pass the interior design test and a State Fire Safety and Building Code examination, also to be adopted and administered by the board. If a person is licensed before the safety exam is completed, he must pass the exam within 18-months of its completion.

Before an applicant takes the licensing exam, he must provide evidence of his education credentials from an accredited institution and the number of years of experience. For instance, a person holding a five-year interior design degree from an accredited institution would need one year of diversified experience before applying for licensing. A graduate of a two-year interior design program must complete four years of experience before applying. Under this legislation, if a person applies for licensure during the first year this legislation is in effect and the applicant has at least eight years of full-time design experience, the applicant may be licensed without taking the design licensing test. However, no applicant would be exempt from the State Fire Safety and Building Code exam unless the person is a licensed architect.

The legislation outlines the continuing education designers would have to take in order to maintain their licensing. It also prohibits the use of the term "interior designer" by anyone who is not licensed.

The bill would not prohibit the services of an interior decorator who helps customers with selection of surface materials, window treatments, wall coverings, paint, floor coverings or light fixtures or similar homemaking goods.

Fees for initial licensure could not exceed \$200 for individuals and \$250 for a firm. Annual renewal fees could not be more than \$100 for an individual or \$150 for a firm.

Additionally, interior design documents would have to contain statements that pointed out the document is not an architectural or engineering study and could not be used as the basis of construction of any load-bearing frame, wall or structure or for the alteration of a load-bearing frame, wall or structure. The bill also would prohibit an interior designer from accepting any form of compensation from a supplier unless the designer first informs the customer of the compensation.

Those violating provisions of this bill would be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to fines up to \$1,000 and/or six months in jail.

Distributing Local Wine (H.3748, Rep. Sharpe). This legislation would allow local wineries to sell their wine at retail and deliver or ship the wine to a buyer in South Carolina.

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Credit Cards Aimed at College Students (H.3751, Rep. Cromer). Under this legislation, banks and other financial institutions, which gear their promotion of credit cards to people 18 to 21-year-old, also would have to provide that group with information on interest rates, responsible use of the cards, and the financial and legal implications of misusing credit cards, and becoming financially overextended. The state Department of Consumer Affairs would draw up regulations for the enforcement of this provision.

### Ways and Means

Sharing Revenues from State Agency-Owned Land (H.3725, Rep. McAbee). Under this legislation, the state would be required to pay to a county, containing land owned by a state agency, an amount equal to 25 percent of the gross proceeds received by the state from the sale of timber, pulpwood, gravel, land rental and other privileges from the state agency-owned land. These provisions now apply only to counties containing state forest land. All revenues received by the county must be spent for school purposes.

Early Retirement Incentive Act (H.3727, Rep. McGinnis). This legislation would allow a member of the state retirement system, who has at least 25 years of service as of June 1, to retire between June 1 and Sept. 30, 1991 and to have five years of credit added to his service at the time of his retirement.

Additionally, a retirement system member, who has at least 20 years of service and had reached age 60 as of June 1, would also be able to retire between June 1 and Sept. 30, 1991 and have five years credited to his service at the time of his retirement. The bill states that no reduction would be made in the member's retirement benefits due to age, and the employee would be entitled to the same insurance benefits as if he had retired with 30 years of service.

The agency of the employee retiring under this incentive system would pay to the retirement system the full actuarial costs of the additional benefits conferred on the employee by these provisions. In addition, the total number of state-funded, full-time positions (FTEs) authorized for a state agency must be reduced permanently by one for each employee retiring under this incentive program.

School District General Obligation Debt Limit (H.3732, Rep. Beasley). Under this legislation, the bonded indebtedness limit for school districts would be raised from 8 percent to 15 percent of the assessed value of all taxable property of the school district.

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**Distribution of Local Option Sales Tax Revenues** (H.3742, Rep. McTeer). The local option sales tax law allows counties that collect less than \$2 million in revenue from the tax to receive revenue supplements from the counties that collect more than \$5 million from the local option tax. This bill specifies that these supplemental revenues must be totally distributed in the manner provided in the provision, except that no county area could exceed the minimal distribution required by law.

**Taxes on Car Purchases** (H.3754, Rep. Sharpe). This legislation would require that the ad valorem taxes on a motor vehicle purchase involving the transfer of license tags would be due 30 days after the purchase instead of 120 days after the purchase as now allowed under law.